

Message Text

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64

ACTION AF-18

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NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 AGR-20 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15

DRC-01 /088 W

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R 111420Z SEP 73

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2968

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 0824

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, SF

SUBJ: RESULTS OF TUCSA MEETING WITH FRAME

REF: JOHANNESBURG 819

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF RAND DAILY MAIL STORY SEPTEMBER 11 WHICH LISTS RESULTS OF RECENT MEETING BETWEEN TRADE UNION COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA (TUCSA) AND FRAME. TUCSA GENERAL SECRETARY GROBBELAAR SAYS STORY SUBSTANTIALLY CORRECT.

2. "THE TEXTILE KING, MR. PHILLIP FRAME, MADE SEVERAL PROMISES TO TRADE UNION OFFICIALS AT HIS MEETING WITH THEM IN DURBAN LAST FRIDAY. MR. FRAME UNDERTOOK:

2A. "TO ENABLE OFFICIALS OF THE TEXTILE WORKERS INDUSTRIAL UNION TO HAVE ACCESS TO HIS SENIOR MANAGEMENT OR HIMSELF WHEN THEY WISH TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS OR LODGE COMPLAINTS.

2B. "NOT TO OPPOSE THE UNIONISATION OF WORKERS IN HIS COTTON UNCLASSIFIED

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FACTORIES.

2C. "TO SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL FOR THE COTTON SECTION OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

3. "OUTSIDE ONE OR TWO AREAS, NO WAGE REGULATING MACHINERY APPLIES TO THE MAJORITY OF COTTON FACTORY WORKERS, AND MR. FRAME REVEALED THAT HE HAD IN FACT ASKED THE MINISTER OF LABOUR TO ARRANGE FOR A WAGE BOARD DETERMINATION FOR THESE WORKERS.

4. "MR. FRAME ALSO LEFT UNION OFFICIALS WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT THEIR WAGE CLAIMS MIGHT RECEIVE GREATER ATTENTION IN FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS.

5. "HE INSISTED, HOWEVER, THAT IF THERE WAS TO BE CO-OPERATION WITH THE UNION, THE PRESS SHOULD BE KEPT OUT OF HIS AFFAIRS-- HENCE THE JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT NEITHER SIDE WOULD MAKE STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS.

6. "MR. FRAME IS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE COME WELL-PREPARED FOR THE MEETING, BRINGING WITH HIM ANSWERS TO MOST OF THE CRITICISM LEVELLED AT HIS GROUP INCLUDING FIGURES TO SHOW THAT HIS WAGES HAD IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY AND THAT HE WAS NOT THE LOWEST PAYING EMPLOYER IN THE INDUSTRY.

7. "MEANWHILE THE KWAZULU COUNCILLOR FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, MR. BARNEY DLADLA, YESTERDAY CONDEMNED WHAT HE CALLED AN ATTEMPT TO QTE WHITEWASH THE FRAME GROUP UNQTE BY TUCSA."
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